



**First Parish Church, Congregational**  
**On the Village Green**  
**Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

*Awaken to the Light and Love of God; Be a Joyful Beacon to Our World*

Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt, Interim Pastor  
Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist  
Jessica Skidmore, Christian Ministry Coordinator  
Tori Potter, Sexton  
Nancy Klebart, Office Manager  
978-526-7661

*office.fpchurch@gmail.com*  
*www.firstparishchurch.org*

**MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Sunday, February 17, 2019, 10:00 AM

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** *“In the Sweet By and By”*  
*Joseph Philbrick Webster (1819-1875)*  
*Arranged by Charles Callahan (b.1951)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (from *Touch Holiness, based on the Beatitudes*)

Leader: Come, all who are poor in spirit;  
Come all who mourn;  
Come, all who are meek;  
Come, all who hunger and thirst after righteousness.

**People: Come, all who would be merciful;  
Come, all who would be pure in heart;  
Come, all who would be peacemakers.**

Leader: Let us come together—the weak, the simple, the powerless,  
the foolish.

**People: Let us confess that the source of our life is the God we see  
in Jesus.**

**All: Let us come with heart and soul and mind and strength  
and let us worship God.**

**\*HYMN:** *“Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit”* *NCH #180 black*

**OPENING PRAYER:** (adapted from *Touch Holiness*)

We have come before you, O God,  
Like those who gathered around Jesus long ago,  
To find new meaning for our lives.  
We want our lives to sound in harmony  
With your song of love.  
We want to live with integrity and wisdom,  
With a spirit of truth.  
Do not disappoint us, O God,

But allow us to know your presence  
And hear your voice.  
Come among us, Holy God,  
Forgive our sins, heal our brokenness,  
And empower us to shine the light of your Love.  
In the name of Jesus we pray...

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

### **\*GLORIA PATRI:**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

## **MORNING PRAYER**

**Joys and Concerns      Pastoral Prayer      Silent Prayer**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Proverbs 11:2

When pride comes, then comes disgrace; but wisdom is with the humble.

Matthew 5:1-12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**ANTHEM:**    *“My Lord, what a mornin’” Spiritual*  
*Arranged by Harry Thacker Burleigh (1866-1949)*

My Lord, what a mornin’, when the stars begin to fall.  
Done quit all my wordly ways. join that heavenly band.  
My Lord, what a mornin’, when the stars begin to fall.

**\*HYMN:** *“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”* PH #418 blue

**SERMON:** *“When You Ain’t Got Nothin’”* (*“Blessed are the poor in spirit...”*)

## **MOMENT OF MEDITATION**

## **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** *“Blessed is the Man”*

*Text: Psalm 1*

*Music: Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)*

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,  
nor standeth in the way of sinners;  
But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he  
meditate day and night,  
And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of waters,  
that bringeth forth his fruit in due season.  
His leaf shall not wither and what he doeth shall prosper.

## **\*DOXOLOGY:**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God  
above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN:** *“Lead On Eternal Sovereign”* NCH #573 black

\*[The “Removal of the Flame”, which symbolizes the Spirit of God accompanying  
us out into the world]

## **\*BENEDICTION**

## **\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE:** *“Chant Héroïque”* George Blake (1912-1986)

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*After the service join us for hospitality.*

The greeters and lay readers are Cheryl and Paul Lengieza.

The Deacons are Sue Parker and Paul Gudonis.

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to address a Deacon should you need help.

Welcome to all who are new to our worship. To join our mailing list please fill out a "Welcome Card" to place in the collection plate or contact [office.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.fpchurch@gmail.com) , 978-526-7661 ext 1.



**FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER March 5 from 5-7 PM in the Chapel.** CE and Vitality welcome all to enjoy Mardi Gras music, masks and beads. Enter a pancake-eating contest. Play Fat Tuesday

games. Experience a blessing and brief spiritual reflection by Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt. This is a great, FREE event for families and residents of all ages. All are welcome. The COA van will be available for pickup. Call 978-526-7500 to arrange.

**HELP NEEDED for Fat Tuesday:** CE and Vitality need help with greeters, craft organizers, table-clearers, pancake-flippers, cleaner-uppers, general merry-makers! Please invite friends and neighbors, especially young families and seniors. Our hope is to make this a happy intergenerational outreach community-wide event. Contact Jessica ([cedirector.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:cedirector.fpchurch@gmail.com) ), Allison ([allison.moir.smith@gmail.com](mailto:allison.moir.smith@gmail.com)) or Mary Ellen ([jerris01@comcast.net](mailto:jerris01@comcast.net)) to volunteer.

**SEASIDE PARISH KNITTERS** Meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, **February 21**, 3-5 PM, at the Chapel Conference Room. We all love to knit/crochet, but more importantly we have been rewarded with helping others by sharing our handwork. We would love to have you join us!





**BOOK GROUP** Next meeting, **Monday, February 25 at 6:30 PM** at Nina Gadmer's home at 20 Hickory Hill, Manchester, the book for discussion will be "Their Eyes Were Watching God", by Zora Neale Hurston. *One of the*

*most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, Their Eyes Were Watching God brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.* Amazon RSVP to Nina at [ngadmer@hotmail.com](mailto:ngadmer@hotmail.com) or 978-412-5017.

**March meeting Monday, March 25 at 6:30 PM** at Mary Lumsden's house, 18 Woodcrest Rd., Manchester, the book for discussion will be "Becoming" by Michele Obama.

Book group is open to everyone! This is a time for church members as well as non-church goers to come together and engage with one another, build relationships, and share in discussion of books that are of interest to people of various backgrounds. We have fun visiting, discussing the book and sharing stories. Each month is a new host, who provides light snacks, beverages and dessert but only once a year!!!! The host then chooses the book for the next month. When we meet we will rate the book and give comments which we will record in a journal that hopefully the FPC book group will continue with many years from now!!!



### **SOUP & CONVERSATION: STORY-TELLING**

We are our stories. We get to know one another by listening and telling them. Do you have a story to share about a birth or a death in your life, about a miracle or hope? On **February 24th**, after worship, we will gather in small groups in the chapel to listen to each other's tales guided by a moderator. After lunch you will select one topic of your choice to listen and share about during the event. Together we'll marvel at facets of each other we never knew and yet recognize, as we've been through

something like it ourselves. Our goal in this story-sharing process will be to deepen our faith and strengthen our connections with one another in community. (Note: The list of topics is similar to those we had last year: “Birth,” “Death,” “Miracle,” and “Hope,” and the topics can be interpreted as widely as you wish. For instance, a story about a Birth could be a story about a new chapter in your life when you felt you “started over;” a story about “Hope” could be a story of someone who inspired your faith in some way. If you attended the event last year, we invite you to consider selecting a different topic this year.)

We ask if you provide a soup that it is warmed and ready to be served, (in a crock pot is OK). Also, if you have any dietary restrictions please bring something you can eat and share, such as: gluten free, dairy free, or vegetarian. Sign up to bring soups, salad and more [here](#)

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 PM**, at the home of Vin Terrill, 37 Beach Street. Scripture for February 21th will be Matthew 5:4. We will be studying the scripture texts for the following Sunday’s worship. Format of the study is as follows: we begin with sharing joys and concerns, we have a time of prayer (where people are free to pray silently or out loud), and then 2 volunteers read the text out loud, while we all notice which words the Spirit draws our attention to. (This way of reading Scripture is called “Lectio Divina.”) We each have the opportunity to share with others the words “speak” to us, as well as ask questions about the text. We also discuss how the text might apply to our lives today. The study is led by Rev. Marlayna. All are welcome to join us! No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. Email or call Rev. Marlayna for more information.

**READERS AND GREETERS** are always needed, to volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up [online](#).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-diaconate>

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to address a Deacon should you need help.

Upcoming events can be found on our website  
([www.firstparishchurch.org](http://www.firstparishchurch.org)) under “News” and “Calendar”

### **THIS WEEK:**

#### **Monday**

Office Closed President’s Day  
7:30 PM Manchester Singers

#### **Tuesday**

10:00 AM COA Zumba  
11:3 AM Woman’s Club Luncheon  
6:30 PM Manchester Historical  
7:00 PM Search Committee

#### **Wednesday**

10:00 AM COA Yoga  
Noon Staff Luncheon  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday**

10:00 AM Health Clinic  
3:00 PM Seaside Parish Knitters  
4:00 PM Bible Study  
7:00 PM Search Committee

#### **Friday**

8:00 AM Yoga  
3:30 PM Brown Bag Lunches

#### **Sunday**

10:00 AM Worship  
11:30 AM Soup & Conversation